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Bass blues
Dive into bass season
on page 4

Full circle moment
A blast from the past for the Summer Festival
on page 5

Library love
Find out what's happening at local libraries
on page 10

Algonquin Highlands sunset by Tammy Nash

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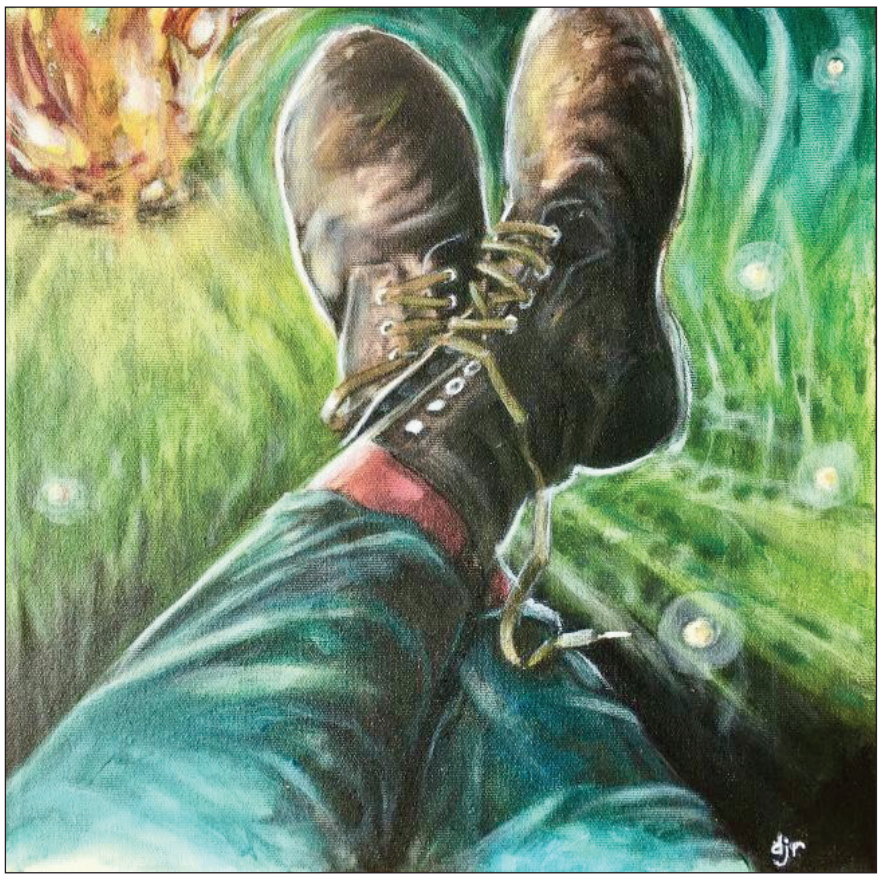

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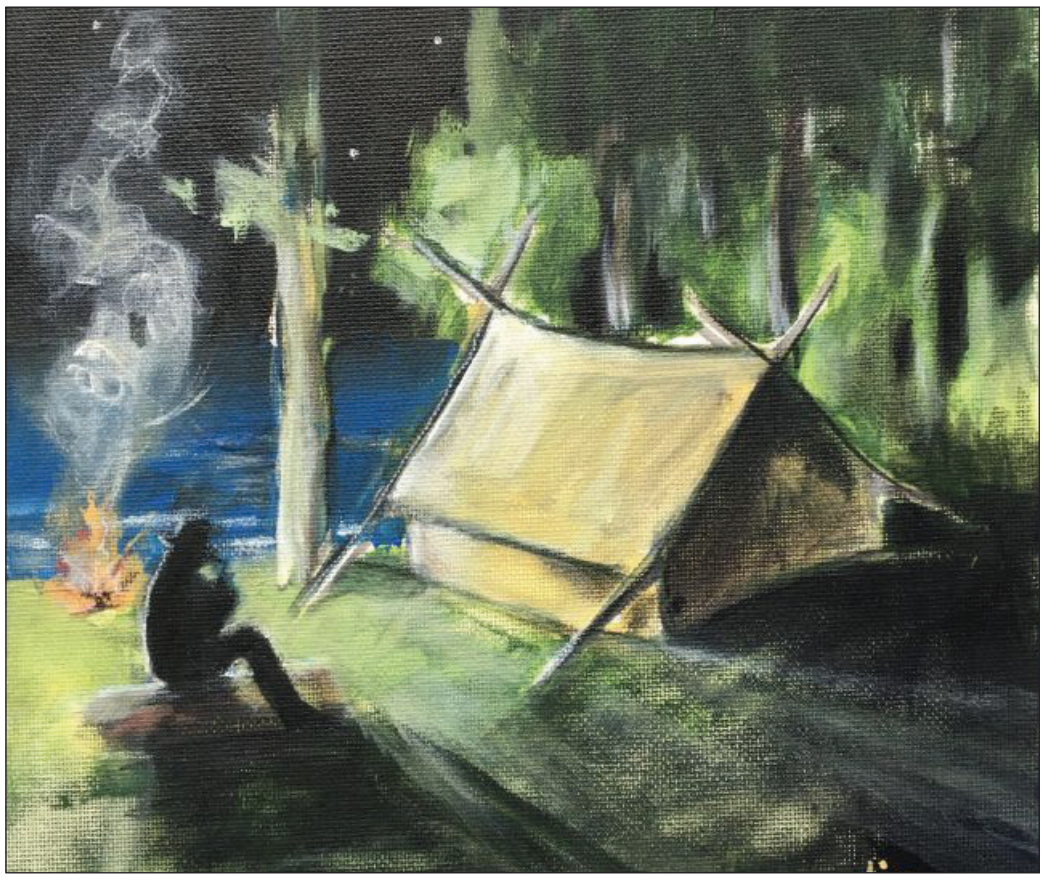

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Camp Canada

WE'RE JUST back from lakeside camping in Algonquin Park. The forecast had been daunting, and many site reservations were no-shows. We like this spot, and were OK with the outages triggered by trees on power lines. We had our self-contained little caravan, propane cook-stove, firewood, and almost the whole place to ourselves.

Until Friday night … rainclouds cleared, winds became breezes, and mosquitoes mostly scattered. Campers began arriving, first in dribs and drabs, then, by the dozens. Cherubs under sun-hats peered through car windows as parents tracked down their weekend wild spaces.

By dusk, the waves were full of city kids screeching from mid-June first plunges. They toppled off new paddle boards or pushed out neon dinghies. Grownups started suppers after setting up sleeping tents and gazebos. Food was prepped atop connected tables under canopies. Damp park-bought firewood steamed before it joined the snap-crackle-pop of every other hotspot along the sandy avenue. Seniors dangled feet from high benches and watched the sun melt into psychedelic Kool-Aid tints. Couples rented kayaks or canoes, and aimed for bobbing loons who ignored all paddlers to call each other or dive for fish. Human counterparts brandished shiny new rods and bait-buckets.

By now, those breezes smelled amazing, as if another peaceable Woodstock were unfolding, one tantalizing multicultural cookout after another. There was maple leaf flag bunting, strings of battery-run fairy LEDs, and flashing rainbow lights inside bike spokes. Each cheery clan had established its momentary right to borrow the land, and to honour its shelter with handshakes, hugs of greeting or introduction as even more cars arrived. A paper plate was offered to anyone who smiled or said hello.

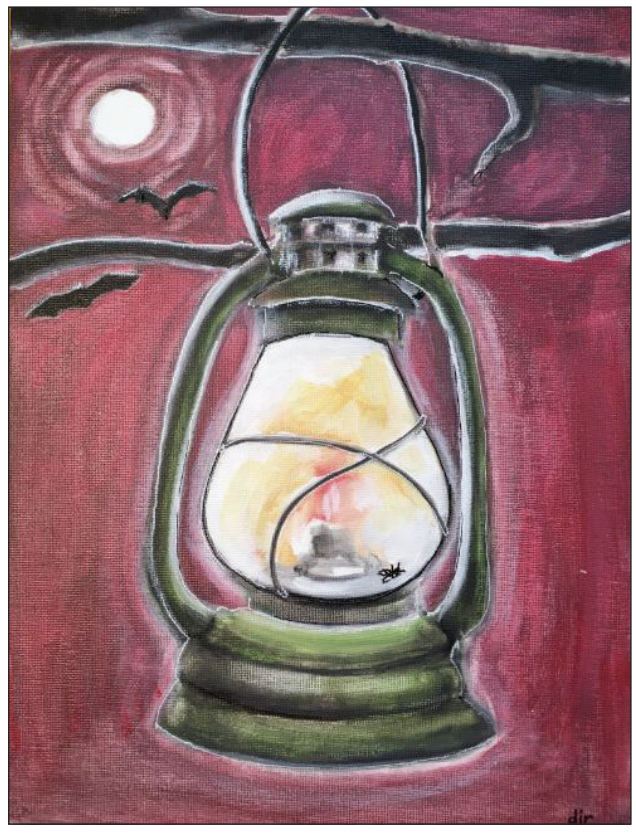
Camping this noisily is not for lovers of isolation. Although we had restful plans for reading, Scrabble, or dabbing Tom Thomson-style onto canvases, we both found ourselves drawn into the collective energy of everyone around us. We all wanted the same feeling: distilling hectic life into basic gratitudes.

A lone woman with a three-legged therapy dog had pitched her tent beside us. A fascinated boy wandered towards her uninvited, and was warmly welcomed. An older male couple from south of the border asked us, two older women, about accessing a small trout-filled lake via this one. Someone else politely requested a few sticks of dry firewood with intention to reimburse us. He returned later, promise kept. We had plenty, and were simply happy to help. He was brand new to camping in this country, and I hope goodwill travels generously with him here.

Sweet dénouement to our getaway was a natural reinforcement of the prevailing theme. Family. Before we double-doused our final breakfast fire, we watched a red squirrel collect her three tiny babies from near an outhouse. One-by-one, she carried each infant in her mouth to better safety way up an old nearby pine.

This campground was super-loaded, like the Midway at the CNE, but rather than resent its overstimulating busyness, I felt elated by one comforting constant. We were all in Canada.

DEB REED
Wind in the Attic



Dirty Soda Girls' Tracy Hawkins and Jodie McCarthy pose for a photo on June 21 during the soda shop's soft opening. /ADAM FRISK staff

Dirty Soda Girls ready to pop in Haliburton

ADAM FRISK
County Life Staff

A new business venture in Haliburton Village is set to open this week and it'll sure put a little pop in your step.

Dirty Soda Girls is eyeing the long weekend for its grand storefront opening on Highland Street, serving up wild and colourful, carbonated soft drinks. The female-owned bubbling beverage business first launched in southern Ontario, and is operated by sisters Tracy Hawkins and Jodie McCarthy, their mother, and also their kids.

The so-called dirty soda has been around for more than a decade, but has become more mainstream thanks, in part, to social media and reality television. Originating in Utah, the carbonated soft drink concoction was popular amongst those who abstain from alcohol and caffeine and within the large Mormon population in the U.S. state. The hit television show *The Secret Lives of Mormon Wives* for a large part, helped thrust the popularity of the Utah mainstay into pop culture lore.

"A dirty soda came out of Utah and the Mormons, because the Mormon religion does not drink coffee or alcohol, so they created dirty sodas using pop and different kinds of creams and different kinds of syrups," Hawkins told the Echo in a June 19 interview. "So, it's pop-based, almost like a Starbucks but without the coffee."

McCarthy said the beverage is more of an old-timey drink, "like something from those old soda shops back in the day, it's closer to that."

The sisters explained that the popularity of the drink has exploded outside the state of Utah, with franchises opening in cities like Las Vegas and New York. However, only a handful of shops exist in Canada, mainly in Vancouver and Calgary.

"We're going to be crazy not to start something here," McCarthy said, recalling a dinner conversation she had with her sister about the increasing popularity of dirty sodas.

So from there, their idea was born in the form of a small trailer, pop-up shop-like experience.

"We've been doing events for a little while now, in Niagara Falls, Newmarket and Guelph," McCarthy said. "We're up here most of the summer so we'll have the trailer for concerts at Kennisis Marina and other events."

Then came the storefront, a project that has been in the works for more than three months. Wanting to make the Haliburton area a permanent home in the future, the sisters decided to jump in with a brick and mortar location.

"We both would like to retire up here in this area, full-time, so we are trying to ease on in, making that happen sooner rather than later," McCarthy said.

"We like the small community, the small town vibes," Hawkins said, adding that the community has been really welcoming, with people stopping by the store to say hi.

Dirty Soda Girls menu features a line-up of original recipes and drink options with beverage names that play homage to some good ol' Canadian music. From the likes of *Life is a Highway*, which features Coke, toasted marshmallow syrup, and cream, or *Patio Lanterns*, made with Coke, pineapple and cherry syrup, to *You Oughta Know*, a soda water, raspberry and pineapple concoction or *Call Me Maybe*, a Sprite-based mix, the drink menu will never let your tastebuds go flat.

From print companies to syrup suppliers, the soda shop is also keeping it Canadian by sourcing products and ingredients from companies north of the border.

Aside from the original mixtures, what sets Dirty Soda Girls aside from others comes down to the ice served in their drinks.

"It's all about the nugget ice," McCarthy said, pointing at a newly-installed stainless steel machine. "I think this is what differentiates us from other people, not just our recipes, we invested in this nugget ice machine, because it's crunchy, it keeps it cold … it's not just ice cubes."

As for the name Dirty Soda Girls itself, the sisters said it just sort of came naturally, a play on words on what they're serving up, a female-owned business, it just sort of made sense to them.

So, if you're out and about over the long weekend and looking for something sweet, cold and a little different, pop by Dirty Soda Girls and give a *Bobcaygeon* or a *Call Me Maybe* a try.

Rafts

AS A child I spent quite a lot of time designing and building rafts. I can remember dragging logs from great distances to try to tie together with my siblings so that we could set sail across the pond. Important to say that these creations sank time and time again.

Funny to think back now about how sure we were every time that we were going to be able to sail across the pond and on to new adventures. With every try we improved the design and it seemed that each and every time we only made it a small way from shore before the inevitable, we began to sink. Water would gush between and over the logs and only float back to the surface of the pond after we had all jumped ship. Then somehow we got the raft back to the shore and started the improvements.

TERESA JORDAN
Community Living Contemplations

It is perplexing to think back and realize that we never seemed to get discouraged, only more determined to keep learning from our mistakes. I feel like with our work and worry we can take on a lot of water and get that familiar sinking feeling. What keeps you afloat? What keeps you going back to the design and beginning again after a setback?

It's a tough thing to do, trying to make a change, or complete a project, make a plan or improve a system. There are always challenges and setbacks. We can either give up because it's hard or seems impossible. Sometimes we are faced with countless critics and our defeats start to feel like billboard announcements.

How do we get back to lashing those logs and trying again? I think we need to make sure we know why success is important to us. Is it just to tick a box, stroke an item off a task list, or is something that will create a great change, move closer to a goal, bring joy, discover something new in ourselves and others or build a skill.

Figuring out why can help us to keep focused on where we know we want to sail with and help us with the motivation to keep going even when there are setbacks. At Community Living each person brings their own gifts, their own life experiences and their own why for how they choose to show up each day.

Our mission is to help everyone in the community understand and feel safe to share gifts and connect to parts of the community that feel right for their life goals and passions. How many of us can say that we are doing exactly what we want to do? Yes, we all have voyages that seem to sink away or do not arrive at the destination we had planned. Here is hoping that with a little help from our friends and neighbours we all have the energy and tenacity to keep on building.

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Bass etiquette for the northern angler

BASS SEASON will soon be in full swing all over Ontario, so I believe this is an appropriate time to go over a little etiquette regarding what happens when a bass is caught.

This gets a little complicated due to bass fishing's southern U.S. roots.

For instance, traditionally, an angler who has just caught a bass will bring it aside, or hoist it into the boat, and then immediately break into various severities of American southern drawl – the bigger the fish the worse it gets.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

Don't be alarmed. This cannot be helped.

A small bass might elicit comments uttered in a mild southern drawl, such as "Mercy!" or "Lordy, Lordy" or perhaps even "Oh son!" This is fine and only mildly annoying.

Mid-sized bass are where things begin to get dicey. You can tell someone has caught a mid-sized bass, even from a distance, when you hear mild "whooping" and "hollering" and phrases such as "Y'all!", "Over yonder!", and "Bless your heart!"

If the fishing has been slow, a hat might be tossed high into the air as well.

Large bass are where things get so annoying that many anglers give up the sport entirely – unless they are the ones who caught the fish, in which case they will almost immediately begin planning a vacation that includes tours of Civil War battlefields, Dollywood, and several Confederate monuments.

When a large bass is caught, you'll also start hearing rebel yells and phrases like "I'm fixin' to ... High falutin," and "This one thought he was too big for his britches." You might also expect to see the angler stand, place their hat over their heart and sing "Dixie" in a low, melancholic voice. Try to refrain from gunning the motor at this point, even after he or she starts referring to you as "Cooter."

Obviously, there is etiquette for the less successful anglers in the boat too.

For instance, if one angler is selfishly catching all the fish, there is a strong and natural urge to demand that he or she walk home, which is fair – unless you are fishing in seven feet of water. At that point, the proper thing to do is drive the angler in question to four feet of water and then politely make the request.

As a bystander to the fish-catching, you will also be asked to take several photos of the successful angler and his or her catch. Your immediate urge will be to throw the angler's phone or camera "accidentally" overboard – which means it's best not to wind up, if you want it to be convincing.

Rather than do this and incite the hard feelings that will invariably arise when that angler does not have a camera to take photos of you when you finally land a fish, it's best to just take lousy photos of the angler and his or her catch. Pro tip: I prefer a photo composition that does not include the angler's head, the fish, or both.

Proper etiquette on your part will also require that you do not bristle too hard when the angler who caught the biggest fish asks you to troll around the margins of the lake while he or she holds their trophy bass high over his head like the Stanley Cup. Fortunately, suddenly increasing and decreasing your "trolling speed" is considered within the boundaries of good taste at this point too.

If you're lucky, that angler will return to the boat with a few crawdads.

ASES: a safe space for bees

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

When a collection of pine trees aged out in front of Archie Stouffer School, the resident school council saw an opportunity. "We wanted to beautify, but also educate," said Aurora McGinn, a local parent and member of the elementary school's council.

Minden has been identified as a Bee City, meaning that community members agree to promote healthy, biodiverse habitats for pollinators in the community.

With this in mind, McGinn went to work to fill out an application for Archie Stouffer to become an official Bee School. "A lot of kids here are already very immersed in nature," she said, noting that a pollinator team is required to move forward with the application, comprising of two teachers, two parents, and two students.

The idea is to commit to creating a space that is safe and welcoming for pollinators of all species. "It's not just bees," said McGinn, "It can also be for butterflies, moths, insects, and hummingbirds."

It's widely known that without pollinators, the human race would not survive. "Of the 1400 crop plants grown around the world, i.e., those that produce all of our food and plant-based industrial products, almost 80 per cent require pollination by animals," shared the US Forest Service.

"We recognize the importance of pollinators here," said McGinn, "and we hope to inspire students to think more about nature. Pollinators are a great start for that."

School council was supported by Jaime Bilodeau, a Master Gardener who assisted with mapping out the early stages of a pollinator garden in the school's front parking lot. It's not something that will happen overnight. This summer, they are working on solarizing the grass, and the teams will start planting seeds in the fall, with the intentions of the native plants to start sprouting next spring.

With the prospect of growing on the horizon, Archie Stouffer was officially recognized as a Bee School, becoming the 83rd in Canada to receive the nod of approval. "It's really nice to be working on something positive," said McGinn, noting that their application, as well as more information on creating pollinator gardens can be found on the official Bee City website, at www.beecitycanada.org.

The Junior Horticultural Society has offered to support the project over the summer months, and tend to the plot of land in an effort to prepare the soil for planting.

"It's nice to see all these kids caring about nature," said McGinn, "hopefully we can inspire others to do the same, and to keep learning about pollinators along the way."

Pollinator gardens are critically important to the health and vitality of a community. Archie Stouffer school council has plans underway to start planting theirs in the early autumn. /EMLY STONEHOUSE staff

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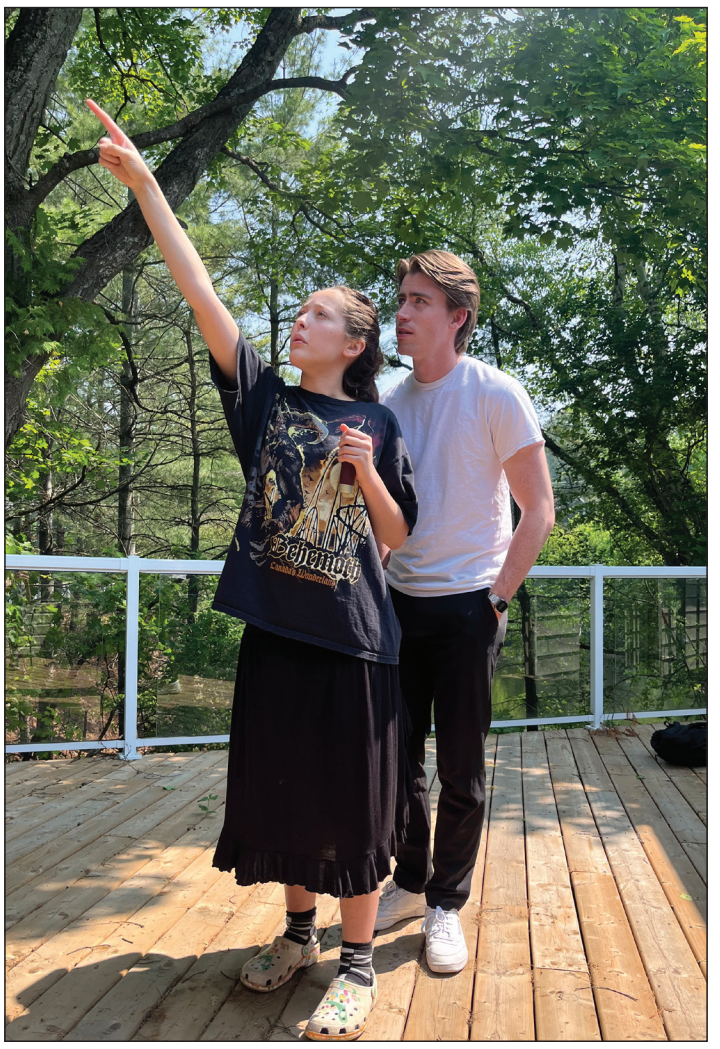
Salt Water Moon returns to the stage with a familiar face

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

Ryan Dawson and Kate Campbell opened the first show ever produced by the Highlands Summer Festival, Salt Water Moon, on July 3, 2000. 25 years later, Campbell is back as the director of the popular show. /FILE



Taliah Stephenson and Liam Mosher are the love interests in this rendition of Salt Water Moon, directed by Kate Campbell. /submitted

A full circle symbolizes many things. A closed circuit, a connection to the past, a full moon.

That's the journey Kate Campbell has been on. The celebrated actor has always called Haliburton her hometown, before she spread her wings to fly into the world of movies and film. She was in the Oscar-nominated film *Gone Girl*, and was nominated for a Maverick Movie Award for best-supporting actress in *Badsville*. She's a writer, a musician, a singer, an actor, a director. Everything she does, she pours her heart and soul into.

But it all started on a small stage in Haliburton, 25 years ago.

It was the inaugural season of the Highlands Summer Festival, and the newly established small-town theatre company was producing a piece by the name of *Salt Water Moon*; a two-person play by David French; set in 1926, but carrying undertones and political currents that resonated with crowds over the years. It's a story of love, a story of loss, a story of raw human emotions.

The audience loved it. And it lay the groundwork for the Summer Festival to move forward; 25 years and beyond. The two cast members 25 years ago were none other than beloved locals Ryan Dawson and Kate Campbell, both on the edge of their teen years at the time, and ready to embark on the next chapter of their lives that lay ahead.

And now they're back. This time, Campbell is sitting in the director's chair. "I love this community so much," she said. "Coming back to this play after 25 years has been deeply meaningful. David French's writing is so powerful, and I have such great memories of working with fellow actor Ryan Dawson and director Doug Brohm on that original production."

While she splits her time between Los Angeles and Toronto these days, and is fully immersed in the film world, Haliburton will always be home to her. "I grew up doing theatre, and part of my artist heart has deeply missed the style," she said. "There's something about having the time and the space to really explore the script."

Campbell has cast Taliah Stephenson and Liam Mosher into the roles of Mary and Jacob, respectively. "They are absolutely incredible," said Campbell. "It's been powerful to see the words coming to life in their own way."

25 years later, Campbell is continuing to forge her way forward in her career. She's just recently announced the launch of *Trailblazing Talks* with Dini Petty. Campbell is a self-proclaimed history buff, and a passionate advocate for women's voices; the trials and triumphs of navigating male-domimated fields.

She deeply believes in the value of coming together to share an artistic experience. "In this era of technology and AI, we're in such desperate need to connect with people and share that human experience together," she said.

And now, as the director of *Salt Water Moon*, she's ready to provide that experience to a Haliburton audience. A closed circuit, a connection to the past, a full moon. "It was a formative experience for me as a young actor - my first paid gig as a teenager - and revisiting it now as a director feels like a reclamation of that whole chapter of my life," she said.

Salt Water Moon kicks off on July 15, with Campbell doing Curtain Talks on July 16, and then again alongside Dawson on July 20. Tickets can be purchased at www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca.

"It's magic to be here," she said. "It's wonderful to be home."

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County Life is produced by The Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times, and published by White Pine Media Corp. Audited circulation: 6,372 July 1 - Dec 31, 2015

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Trees

I'VE BEEN spending a lot of time looking out windows.

We all have. It's been hot. And yes, while some say we shouldn't be complaining about the heat, that we will miss it during those long cold days of winter, I disagree.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

This is too much for me. Too much for many. Heat waves have washed across the country, causing school closures, cancelled sports events, and crashing air conditioners in every province.

But back to where we started.

The trees.

From our bedroom window, I have the privilege of taking in the sights and sounds of a deep and rich forest. It's not a young forest. You can see that its roots run deep and its trees grow tall.

It's beautiful.

But it wasn't until recently that I appreciated the canopy that sprouts each spring. I used to resent the trees; cutting off my view to the lake, my distance from the lights in town that played their part in reminding me I was never alone.

It wasn't until recently, during this last big heat wave, that I looked out at the forest, and actually saw the trees.

They were flowing together; swishing and swaying with a rhythm of their own creation.

It looked like water, the way the shades of green swirled around one another, each respecting the time and space their neighbours took up.

I read about canopy shyness: a natural phenomenon where trees will keep to themselves, and knowingly prevent growth from intruding on other trees' space. While it's not a universal practice for all trees, it's been identified around the world. Scientists don't have an exact reason behind the mutual respect of the tree trunks, but many speculate it's due to trees knowing not to share bugs and insects, preventing the spread of diseases, or just simply the innate knowledge that all growing goods need space and time to grow.

These trees are more respectful and empathetic than many humans whose names have been gracing news headlines over recent years.

I always assumed I was a water child. I've long been drawn to lakes, rivers, the ocean. I went to school in Newfoundland, lived in Nova Scotia, and when I finally moved back to hometown Haliburton County, I found a cute and cozy spot right on the Gull River.

When we moved to our current home, that was the only setback. No water. On clear nights, I can see Head Lake, but during the summer season, the leaves blur the view. It wasn't a make or break point for the beautiful house we call home, but the water has always flowed deep through my soul.

That's why, during the last big heat wave, when I watched the trees swish and sway, I found peace in the performance. And it dawned on me that perhaps my longing was the other way around. I moved to places with water, not because I was drawn to the waves, but because the mirrored movement of trees was the song of my childhood. It's a part of me. Flows deep through my soul.

Since my new-found appreciation of trees, I've absent-mindedly been saying that the trees are waving at us; a reminder that the leaves don't leave us isolated, but allow us to belong. A part of something so much bigger than ourselves.

The other day, while the sun soaked our shoulders, I watched as a gust of wind floated through our backyard, rustling the thousands of leaves waiting for some sense of reprieve.

And just like that, my son reached his little hand to the sky, and waved 'hello' to the trees. He did it without prompting; it was a muscle memory, learned from seeing me wave to the trees, as they wave back.

A different kind of waves that come crashing with the ocean. A wave that feels like home.

And I hope that deep in my son's soul, he will always be someone who waves at the trees.

Top 10 reasons why I will probably never wear a tankini

I RECENTLY READ that tankinis just might be this summer's hottest trend. For those who don't know, a tankini is a bikini bottom combined with a tank top. But let me just make this clear: trendy or not, you won't catch me in one.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

Here are my top 10 reasons why:

1. I once made a solemn vow not to.
2. Still contractually obligated to wear a Speedo.
3. I hate tan lines.
4. I don't want to be the inspiration for a new Draconian swimsuit by-law.
5. I'm through with Parisian runways…
6. I refuse to be exploited on the cover of the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue again.
7. No need to traumatize beach-going children…
8. I'm horrible at tying bows behind my neck.
9. I like to lag 18 to 20 years behind fashion trends.
10. I look better in a three-piece swimsuit.

Dream

Rain drenching spring's last Breaths, streaming down from charcoal Sky,
Wind sweeping through the weeping willows, drooping over the sleeping Lake,
that dreams of waking beneath the blue of a seamless Sky, sunlight soaking its skin,
Wind billowing in the maples outside the window, leaves drinking their last spring Rain,
hat bathes their branches,
before flutters of summer weave through the trees, millions of leaves, waving like small hands in the breeze,
welcoming the new season as it births its way into the world, as I lie, sleepless, beneath an invisible Moon,
listening to droplets of Rain slap the maple leaves, leaving the window half-open before I slinked into bed,
the coolness of breeze, lulling me, as I drift off along the stream of my dream,
floating beneath a swollen Moon,
its light silvering the ripples of River, carrying me towards an unknown place,
or maybe a Lake that I used to know, where I'd go and float, weightless, beneath a blanket of black Sky,
the Milky Way spraying me with stars, my eyes fluttering up in wonder as the water cradled me,
the Lake, black as ink, as my body scribbled across its skin,
my limbs, kicking, my hands, paddling, scooping up chalices of cool, silky water,
then letting them drip through the spaces between my fingers, rolling over, weightless, in the silk of Lake,
how I long to linger longer in the landscape of my dream, as I roll over in bed,
branches, thrashing against the windowpane, waking me, hearing Wind and Rain lashing trees,
I listen to spring's leave taking, its Breaths, ragged, as it clears the Air for summer to arrive,
its Air, warm as fur, veiling the days, before haze smothers it again, and my Breath seeks reprieve,
fleeing to the Lake that drenches my dream with the memory of floating beneath a black velvet Sky,
embroidered with so many stars, I reach up to pluck one down and they all become unstitched,
stardust pouring down over me, as I sink back into the stream of my dream,
drifting towards that place from which it springs, feathers of my Breath,
carried on invisible wings, over the sleeping Lake,
my eyes fluttering awake, blinking up at the blue of a seamless Sky,
Sun beaming down at me, my eyes, beaming back, swiping sleep crumbs out of them
as I stumble towards the window to slide it open,
mumbling, Welcome Back, as summer light streams through the crack,
and I slip on my flip-flops and stagger Outside, cupping my face up towards Sky,
a seagull flapping past, my eyes smiling at its squawks and the sound of summer Awakening.

Sylvie Kalenda

Food & Fun in the Highlands

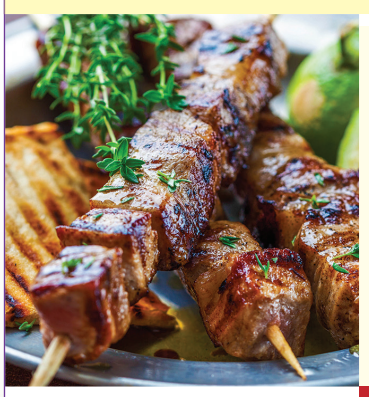
Molly's Market Bakery

Summer Fun

July Date Night

Saturday July 19

Dinner for 2 only $80



- Greek Chicken Kabobs with Tzatziki
- Greek Lemon Potatoes
- Eggplant & Tomato Bake
- Greek Village Salad
- Pita Bread
- Bougasta

Molly's Market Bakery

170 Bobcaygeon Rd.
Minden
705-286-6988
MollysBistroBakery.ca

ORDER BY July 15

PICK UP July 19
(10 am-2 pm)

Peachy Tomato Salad

Refreshing salads are favored at such gatherings, and the interesting pairing of peaches and tomatoes makes the most of these fruits when they're at their peak. Sweet and savory flavors combine in this recipe for "Peachy Tomato Salad" courtesy of "The Mediterranean Diet Cookbook" (Rockridge University Press). This delicious side pairs best with grilled fare.

Peachy Tomato Salad
Serves 2

- 2 ripe peaches, pitted and sliced into wedges
- 2 ripe tomatoes, cut into wedges
- 1/2 red onion, thinly sliced
- Sea salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Toss the peaches, tomatoes and red onion in a large bowl. Season to taste. Add the olive oil and lemon juice, and gently toss. Serve at room temperature.

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To advertise in this feature contact:

Laura Smith 705-854-0294 laura@haliburtonpress.com

Next issue of Food & Fun is August 7,
booking deadline ednesday, July 30.

Not intended to solicit properties or clients currently listed

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1100 SQ. ft. 3 bedroom bungalow sits on private 5.5 acre lot in peaceville Blairhampton - cozy country kitchen and dining area - 4pc bath - new septic 2018 - full w/o basement unfinished - FA propane - 26' x 40' 2 storey garage - fully insulated - 2nd floor wide open and carpeted - FA propane heating

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- Centrally located between Haliburton & Minden

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17 ACRES ON MINDEN LAKE $999,000

The perfect opportunity to own this charming 3 bdrm year-round home/ cottage with 205ft of water frontage on Minden Lake, and 17 acres of land! Many outbuildings, such as a unique bunkie, a workshop/shed, & vintage farm buildings around the property. The acreage is level & mostly cleared, featuring bountiful apple trees & a hidden gem - a babbling creek flowing through the property. You will fall in love!

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- Level lot - 1.93 acres
- Lots of upgrades

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HARCOURT
$599,000

EAST LAKE $479,000

- Peace & tranquility on quiet lake!
- Charming 2 bed/1 bath cottage
- Open concept, cozy inviting layout
- 2 w/os to large wrap-around deck
- Gently terraced lot; nicely treed
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- No motors at all; private yr-rnd rd

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ALGONQUIN STYLE CHALET $749,000

Custom built, 1.22- acre riverfront lot! Privacy offered w/this open concept home featuring comb. Living/Dining/ Kit LR cathedral ceiling, electric FP & 9 ft ceilings, warm pine accents, frosted paned barn doors. Primary BR w/walk-in closet & 4 pce. spa inspired en-suite bath. 2nd. BR, 2nd. Bath & laundry rm. In-floor boiler heating system.Enjoy the riverside deck or swim in the swim hole. Hot tub/swimming pool/pool shed.

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

GULL RIVER MINUTES SOUTH OF MINDEN

OPEN HOUSE Sunday, June 29, 1 - 3 pm

- Level Lot, Year Round Living
- Two Bedroom, One Bathroom
- Double Car Garage and Work Bench
- Hot Tub view of the Sun Sets and River

Lynda Litwin
Sales Representative
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lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

2693 COUNTY RD 21 $439,000

- 3 Bedroom & 1 Bath
- 4 season home
- Detached Garage
- Private .7 acre lot right between Minden and Haliburton on municipally maintained road
- Generac that will power the whole house during a power outage
- Full unfinished basement with walkout

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WINDOVER DRIVE, MINDEN $689,900

2 bedroom executive home in Minden has a spacious layout & potential to add bedroom(s) in the basement. Large, eat-in kitchen. Fenced private backyard complete w/ 15' above ground pool, firepit area.. Quality finishes throughout, including high-end energy-efficient windows, high-end propane furnace, central air, double paved driveway, ICF basement walls w/ 9' ceilings, custom tile in main bathroom, quartz countertops & stainless steel backsplash in the kitchen.

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LOOP ROAD. $399,000

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Libraries. More than books

Many people think of libraries as places you go to borrow books. Like the Blockbuster Video of yesteryear – a one-trick pony. But nothing can be further from the truth! Libraries are thriving and evolving community hubs! Haliburton County Public Library is filled with resources, both physical and digital, and offers a safe place for people to gather and meet. It provides opportunities to learn a new skill, get help with technology, borrow vegetable seeds to start a garden, and join book clubs across the County. The library hosts educational workshops with partners like the Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, Haliburton Highlands Health Services, and Fleming CREW Employment Centre, movie screenings in partnership with the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, contest draws to win prizes, hands-on kid's activities like stop-motion animation workshops, family Storytimes with puppets and songs, and so much more! The best part? Library offerings are free for residents and visitors alike!

If you're looking for fun and educational things to do this summer and beyond, the Haliburton County Public Library has you covered! Check out our events calendar at haliburtonlibrary.ca/programs-events, follow us on Facebook or Instagram, or visit your nearest library branch to browse the bulletin board for events that will spark your curiosity! With eight locations across the County, there's always something fun happening nearby.

We've got a busy summer planned – here are a few highlights to get you motivated. We hope you'll join us for an event (or five).

Summer Reading activities for all ages and abilities are available at all Haliburton County Public Library locations. Book Bingo is open to kids, teens, and adults – complete a card and submit it by Aug. 15 for a chance to win a prize. Kids can also pick up a free TD Summer Reading Club kit at any Haliburton County Public Library branch and enjoy reading, games, and activities all summer long!

Concerned about ticks? Join staff from the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit for a talk on ticks, heat, and how climate change is impacting both. Find out how ticks and heat impact health, who's at greatest risk, and tips to protect yourself and your family. Offered four times in July.

Enjoy a magical crafting experience in the Wool and Wildflowers Needle Felting Workshop, where you'll create beautiful flowers using the art of needle felting. All supplies are provided. Registration is required. Recommended for ages 12 and up. This workshop will be offered four times throughout July.

Get crafty with the Cricut Shadow Magic Workshop, where kids will use pre-cut paper designs and mini-LED lights to create a glowing shadow box to take home. It's a fun, hands-on way to explore layering, design, and creativity! Recommended for ages eight and up. This workshop will be offered four times throughout July.

Discover your family tree by spending a Tuesday with Afternoons with Ancestors. Adele Espina, from the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group, hosts drop-in sessions four times a month, alternating between the Dysart branch in Haliburton Village and the Minden Hills branch. Use databases such as Ancestry.com and FamilySearch at the library to find answers to your family tree and genealogy questions.

Interested in any of the above? Check out the events calendar at haliburtonlibrary.ca/programs-events for dates, times, and locations, or to register for an event.

See you at the library!

Submitted by Patricia Halajski, Haliburton County Public Library

E-bikes and other alternatives

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) East Region is urging all operators of e-bikes, mobility devices, mopeds, electric scooters and other alternative forms of transportation, to know the laws before heading out on the roads. With the emerging popularity of these forms of transportation, it is vital that users understand the rules and regulations governing their use as well as all safety requirements.

The most common type, the e-bike, is defined under the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) and the Motor Vehicle Safety Act Regulations as a power-assisted bicycle. Vehicles in this category must:

- Weigh 120 kg or less
- Have a label affixed by the manufacturer that the vehicle complies with these regulations
- Have steering handlebars
- Be fitted at all times with pedals that are operable to propel the bicycle
- Be designed to travel on no more than 3 wheels in contact with the ground
- Not be capable of providing further assistance when the bicycle attains a speed of 32 km/hr

To operate an e-bike on a roadway, the following must apply:

- Operator and passengers must be 16 years of age or older
- Operator and passengers must wear a helmet (bicycle or motorcycle helmet)
- May carry a passenger if the e-bike is equipped with a seat and foot pedals
- Does not require driver›s licence, permit, license plate or insurance
- Operator must follow all rules of the road that apply to any vehicle or bicycle

Many of the following means of transportation are similar in appearance and it may not be immediately obvious which category they fall under.

E-bikes (and e-scooters) and mopeds are equipped with pedals and a form of power assistance (an electric or gasoline-fueled motor). E-bikes/e-scooters (which can be equipped with two or three wheels) can be ridden on municipal roads (where permitted) but not provincial highways and they must be equipped with safety devices (e.g. bell; white front light; red rear light).

A moped is considered a motor vehicle under the HTA. Drivers and vehicles must both be licensed.

A motor scooter is not equipped with pedals, has a gasoline or electric-powered engine, and is considered a motorcycle under the HTA. Drivers and vehicles must both be licensed.

E-bikes/e-scooters, mopeds, and motor scooters are not permitted on controlled access highways in Ontario. Operators of e-bikes/e-scooters do not require an Ontario driver›s licence, a license plate, or vehicle insurance.

Before purchasing or operating a new type of vehicle, the OPP recommends researching requirements for equipment and licensing under the Highway Traffic Act and permitted uses in the municipality where you intend to operate it.

Submitted

Legion Events

Branch 441 Kinmount

Monday: Bid euchre 1 p.m., Cornhole 7 p.m. (upstairs)
Tuesday: Last Tuesday of the month-liver luncheon with one alternative 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Mixed darts 7:30 p.m. Canteen opens at 6 p.m.
Thursday: General meeting (3rd week) Members only 7:30 p.m.
Friday: Chair yoga 10 a.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. play at 6:45 p.m.
Saturday: Meat draw 5 p.m. Canteen opens at 3 p.m.
Sunday: Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.
Special events: May 11 Mother's day breakfast $13.00/person
Friday night BBQ start May 23
Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541. Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce

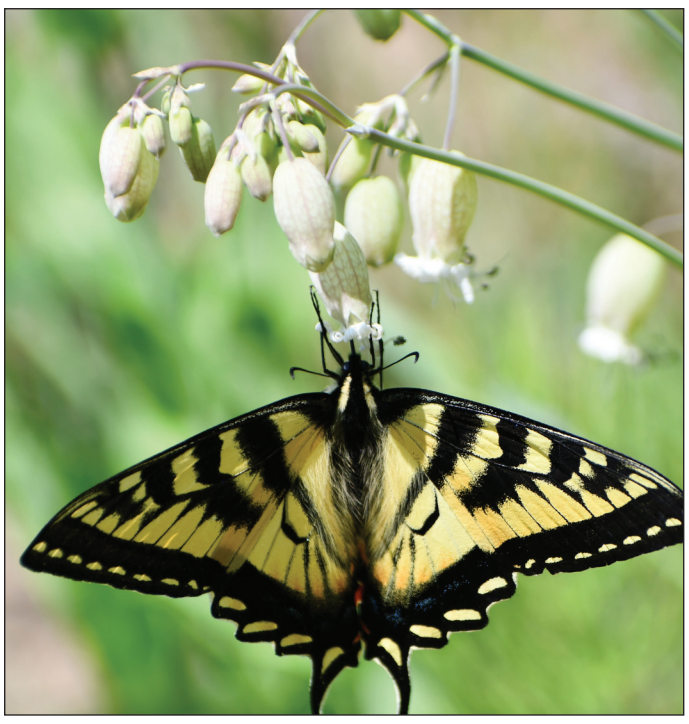
Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Closed, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 6 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.
Mondays July 7, 14, 21, 28 - Darts, $5/player, 7 p.m.
Wednesdays July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Darts, $4/player, 2 p.m.
July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Quick Supper, Menu changes weekly, $10, 5 to 6:30 p.m
July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Horseshoes, $5/player, 7 p.m.
Thursdays July 10 and 24 - HHHS Social Rec, 10 a.m.
Fridays July 4, 18 - Wings and Jam Session, $15/lb, 5 to 8 p.m.
July 11 and 25 - Seniors 55+ Lunch, $17, Noon
July 11 - Cold Plate Dinner, $15, 5 to 8 p.m.
July 25 - Fish & Chips, 5 to 8 p.m., $15 for 1 piece, $20 for 2 pieces
Saturdays July 5, 12, 19, 26 - Meat Draw, 3 p.m.
July 19 -Summer Dance, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Sunday July 13 - LA Breakfast, 9 to 11 a.m.,$10
Call the Legion for more info 705-448-2221

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com.
Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Row of Merganser ducks by Debi Ireland

Bumblebee by Jill Moulton



Tiger Swallowtail by Randy Moratz

Bull moose by Tammy Nash

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Sat, Jul 5	6:00 PM	Saturday Night Live	Gary & Rough Ideas
Sun, Jul 6	4:00 PM	Caesar Sunday Happy Hour	Jim Love
Tue, Jul 8	5:00 PM	Tiki Tuesday	Jeff Moulton
Fri, Jul 11	7:30 PM	Janzen Boys in Concert	**Get Tickets Now**

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Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Bear in the ferns by Tammy Nash

Four Spotted Skimmer by Randy Moratz

A starling takes flight by Vivien Mausz

Rabbit by Debi Ireland

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Tiger swallowtail by Laura Smith

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Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Easy Gardening: High Style. Low Maintenance
When: July 8, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre, 55 Parkside St., Minden
Join the Minden & District Horticultural Society at the Minden Community Centre. Guest speaker Pat de Valence will be discussing 'Easy Gardening: High Style. Low Maintenance', followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

Youth Members Program
When: July 8, 4 to 5 p.m.
Kids aged 6 years or older who want to learn about gardening are welcome to join the Horticultural Society Youth Members Program. minden.jr.hort.club@gmail.com

Health Care Auxiliary Tag Day
Where: Various locations in downtown Minden and along Hwy 35 from 9:30 a.m. to approx. 2:30 p.m. Boshkung Social 2 to 6 p.m. Major fundraising event for the Health Care Auxiliary. All proceeds being donated to various services at the Minden Health Hub right here at the Minden HHHS site.

Community Yard Sale
When: Saturday July 12
Where: 20 George St, Haliburton – North Entrance, Masonic Temple Parking lot
Rent a spot – bring your table – sell your stuff. Spot rentals from $15. Space is limited. Hosted by North Entrance Masonic Lodge. No.463. BBQ. - Pie Sale - Bake Table - Open House. For more info or to book your spot contact nelyardsale@victoriadistrict.com

Outpost Scrabble & Coffee
When: Wednesday July 16, 10:30 am
Where: Red Cross Outpost Historic House, 2314 Loop Rd, Wilberforce
Words used with a connection to the Outpost and its history win an extra 10 points. Contact: Barb Schofield, 705-448-2598, wilberforcebarb@yahoo.ca

Norwood Country Jamboree
When: July 17 to 20
Where: Peterborough, For tickets call 1-800-954-9998

Recurring events

Gift Shop Sale Table
When: Every Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where: Gift Shop at the Highland Crest LTC
Our gift shop is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 12 to 3 and Friday (sale day) 10 to 1.

Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library Book Nook Hours
When: 1st, 3rd Tuesday of the month 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
A variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, fiction, science fiction/fantasy, sports, spiritual and other non-fiction books. Bring a reusable bag. Payment is by cash donation. All money raised supports library enhancements and programmes for all libraries in the county.

Bridge for Seniors
When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room
All welcome.

Haliburton Legion Walking Group
When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Remembrance Hall
A safe walking environment. Lead by an Occupational therapist.

Free Balanced Fitness, Active Social Senior Classes
When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

Bid Euchre
When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All welcome!

Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain St.
Join us for safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Cards/Euchre/Cribbage
When: Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.
Where: St. George's Church 617 Mountain Street
Lakeside Church Service
When: Sunday at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Where: 9 Park Street, Haliburton.
Whoever you are, wherever you've been, you are welcome here.

Weekly Meat Rolls
When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 and 35
Join us for our weekly meat draw. Five spins for $10. First four rounds are for high a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for $2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

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Walk on

Participants in this year's Walk for Water raised over $10,000 for over-seas well development.

See page 3

Recognition

The members of the HHSS Student Activity Council have been recognized for their leadership in the school.

See page 12

New director

Haliburton County's incoming Director of Education, Brad Saunders, talks about his past and the future of

See Second Section

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Ministry approves school expansion

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

The Ministry of Education has announced that the school board will receive a grant to alleviate overcrowding at the Archie Stouffer Elementary School.

The board announced last week that it has received an allocation of $2.1 million for the construction of additional classroom space. The ministry will contribute $750,000 to construction costs and the board will pay the rest.

Board chairman Cheryl Murdoch said the announcement of the allocation was unexpected. "It's great news and a real surprise," she said in an interview on Friday. "I could hardly believe it."

Murdoch said the addition to the Minden school will alleviate the overcrowded conditions, allowing the board to move students out of the old IGA store on Main Street and eliminate the use of portables.

The board's submission to the province proposed a separate school on the Archie Stouffer property to accommodate nine classrooms from Kindergarten to Grade Three and a gymnasium. The estimated cost of the project was $3 million.

"We are going to have to have some

(more on page 4)

Prescribed burn consumes 100 acres

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

More than 100 acres of forest in Stanhope Township were consumed by fire last Friday, as part of the Ministry of Natural Resources' preparations to plant 60,000 white pines.

In what is called a "prescribed burn" ministry staff set fire to three parcels of land, ranging in size from 10 acres to 80 acres. The blaze, which began at about 2 p.m., sent a thick column of smoke into the sky where it was quickly dispersed.

Peter Hynard, the Unit Forester with the ministry's Minden office, said the burn duplicated the conditions of a natural forest fire and prepared the area for reforestation with white pine next spring.

"The white pine is a slow-starting tree," said Hynard. "It will make a fast start in the burn and become strong competition before other species return."

The burn sites are located about three kilometres south of Ox Narrows and one kilometre west of Kushog Lake. MNR fire crews will continue to monitor the area until the next heavy rain ensures there are no more hot spots.

Preparation of the chosen sites involved clear-cutting, "tramping" with a bulldozer to ensure all material was on the ground and a herbicide application to retard any further regrowth before ignition.

The fires were started by an MNR helicopter which dropped flaming petroleum jelly on to the burn sites, starting at the centre and flying in circles towards the edge.

Haliburton County was once heavily forested with white pine but unregulated logging decimated the species, says Hynard.

The white pine does not do well when it is forced to compete with other types of trees, and needs fire to perpetuate itself.

Once a stand of white pine matures and begins to die, it will be replaced by maple and balsalm unless there is a fire.

Before it was clear cut, the burned areas containted a mixture of poplar, white birch, maple, balsam and some white pine. Once the stands begin to grow back, Hynard says the same mix of trees will occur, but the white pine will be more numerous and better able to withstand the competition.

The burn itself was carried out with military precision and planning.

A base camp was set up on Kushog Lake Road with a communications centre, a weather station and a helipad. The ministry crews had to wait for suitable weather before the burn could be attempted.

Jack Gravel, a weather technician from Huntsville, kept track of temperature, humidity and wind speed and briefed fire boss Tom Russell on present conditions and forecasts for the next 24 hours.

By early Friday afternoon, the conditions were just about ideal, according to Gravel, with light surface winds and an unstable air mass which would disperse the smoke quickly.

Although he could have collected the

(more on page 11)

Bringing home the gold

High school students Melanie Duchene and John Vuksic were chosen as Girl and Boy Athlete of the Year at last Thursday's athletic banquet.

HHSS athletes honoured

by Susan Grober

The athletes of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School had their time in the spotlight at an awards banquet held last Tuesday at the Haliburton Legion.

Team seals, awards and trophies were presented by coaches and students Kelly Strong and David Kinsella.

Melanie Duchene was chosen as Girl Athlete of the Year. Duchene has played field hockey, track and field, volleyball, and badminton. Her hard work and willingness to improve earned her eight gold seals, two silver seals, and two Most Valuable Player awards.

John Vuksic, whose athletic interests include hockey, football and badminton, was chosen as Boy Athlete of the Year. Vuksic was described as having both incredible talent and modesty.

It was certainly an outstanding season for many of the Redmen teams.

(more on page 15)

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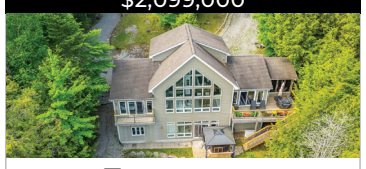

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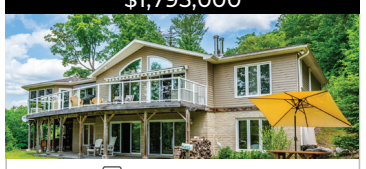


5 X BED | 4 X BATH | MLS# X12236651

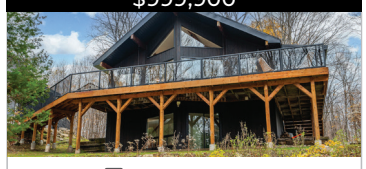
SOYERS LAKE
$1,695,00

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12219995

KUSHOG LAKE
$1,050,000

4 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# X12227417

EAGLE LAKE
$999,900



3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12029422

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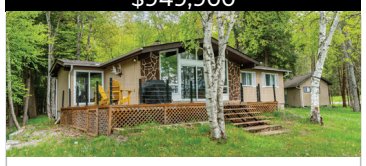
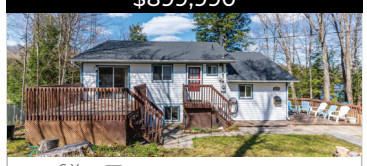
$949,900



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# 12199617

LONG LAKE
$899,990



6 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12146750

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3 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# X12189937

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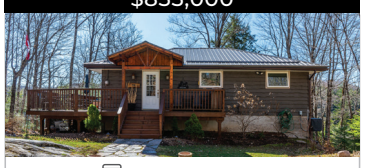

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12120338

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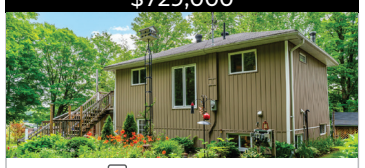
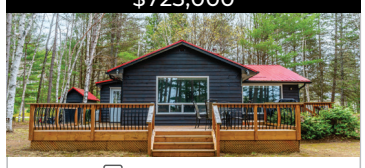


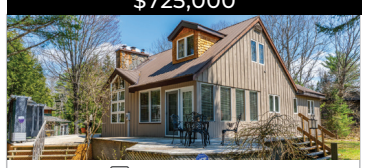
3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12236448

WILBERMERE LAKE
$725,000



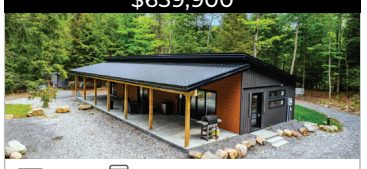
3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12138474

KENNISIS RIVER
$725,000



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12137708

EAGLE LAKE AREA
$659,900



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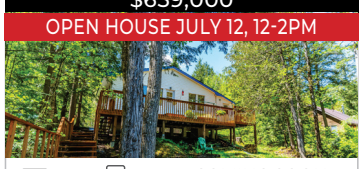

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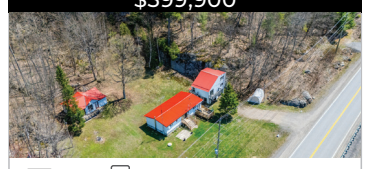

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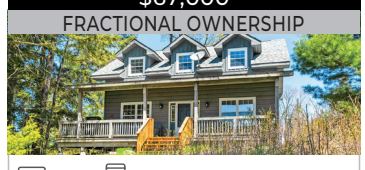

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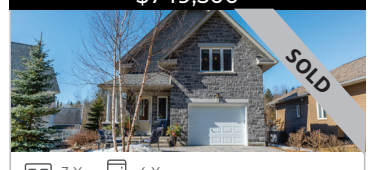

3 X BED | 4 X BATH | MLS# X12071612

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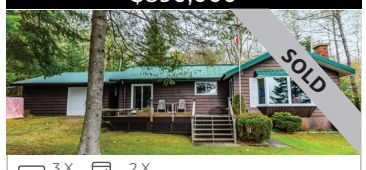

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12074153

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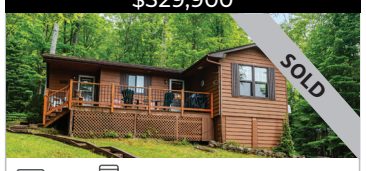

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12210389

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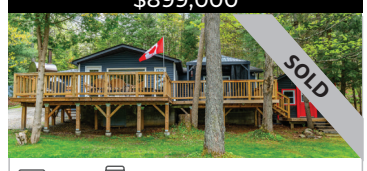

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12166694

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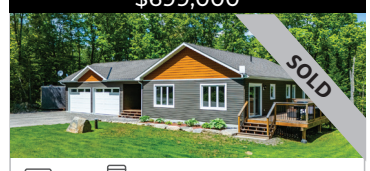

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X 12182080

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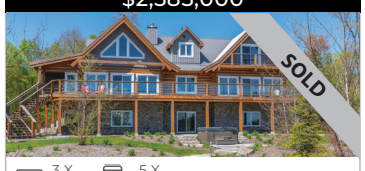

3 X BED | 5 X BATH | MLS# X12170193

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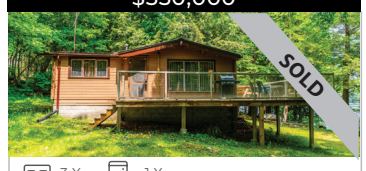

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